

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraphs 0015, 0029, 0030, and 0047 as follows:

[0015] The apparatus 1 extends longitudinally from a first 4 to a second 5 end, ~~limit~~, each of the ~~limits~~ ends 4, 5 can be considered as the front or as the rear. The apparatus 1 extends transversely from a first 6 to a second 7 side; each of the sides 6, 7 can be considered as the right side or as the left side.

[0029] The support 2 and gliding 3 surfaces substantially have the same length. Each surface 2, 3 can be slightly shorter, the same length, or longer than the other. The support surface 2 is wider than the gliding surface 3. In the embodiments illustrated, such as in FIGS. 4 and 5, for example, the width of gliding surface 3 is more than half the width of the support surface 2 at least between the front and rear contact lines of the apparatus 1. The lateral edges 11, 13 of the support surface 2 overhang with respect to the gliding surface 3. Thus, the forces exerted by the user's feet on the top 14, in the area of the lateral edges 11, 13, are transmitted to the gliding surface 3 while being amplified. A resulting advantage is a decrease in fatigue when steering the apparatus 1. Due to the overhang, the user can, with his/her feet, exert a torque for tilting the apparatus, allowing for an edge setting by sinking one of the lateral edges 26, 28 in the snow.

[0030] According to the invention, and as seen better in FIG. 3, the first shovel 20 of the support surface 2 and the first shovel 36 of the gliding surface 3 meet. Similarly, the second shovel 24 of the support surface 2 and the second shovel 38 of the gliding surface 3 meet. Toward each of the first 4 and second 5 ends limits of the gliding apparatus 1, the first 20, 36 and second 24, 38 shovels are respectively tangent one to the other and coupled one to the other. The first 20, 36 and second 24, 38 shovels are respectively superimposed one on the other to form a single end portion. Each portion has an aspect similar to that of the shovels. In particular, each portion has a curvature whose center(s) is located on the side of the top 14 of the support surface 2. This structure imparts to the apparatus 1 a good aptitude for clearing a path through the snow.

[0047] Preferably, the apparatus is substantially longitudinally symmetrical, i.e., with respect to a central transverse ~~axis~~ vertical plane. It is also preferred to be substantially transversely symmetrical, with respect to a central longitudinal ~~axis~~ vertical plane. Thus, each ~~limit~~ end 4, 5 of the apparatus can be the front or the rear.